

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for assigning a mobile dialing number (MDN) to a wireless mobile communication device (MCD) for providing local call access to the MCD from a base address for the MCD, the method comprising:
 - 5 selecting a wireless rate center encompassing the base address and having an MDN providing local call access to the MCD from the base address for the MCD; and
 - 10 assigning the MDN providing local calling access to the MCD from the base address for the MCD, in the selected wireless rate center encompassing the base address, to the MCD.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising, activating the assigned MDN.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising, configuring the MCD for operation with the assigned MDN.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - 20 compiling a database defining geographic boundaries of a plurality of wireless rate centers; and
 - selecting the wireless rate center of claim 1 from the database.
5. The method of claim 4, further comprising, converting the base address to a geographic location and selecting the wireless rate center from those wireless rate centers in the database having geographic boundaries encompassing the geographic location of the base address.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising, defining the geographic boundaries of the wireless rate centers, and the geographic location of the base address in terms of latitude and longitude.

5

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
selecting the wireless rate center prior to contacting a wireless service provider; and
transmitting a designation of the selected wireless rate center to a wireless service provider for assignment of the MDN by the wireless service provider.

10

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising, assigning the MDN and transmitting the assigned MDN to an entity other than the wireless service provider for configuring the MCD for operation with the assigned MDN.

15

9. The method of claim 7, further comprising, transmitting a serial number of the MCD to the wireless service provider together with the designation of the selected wireless rate center.

20

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising, assigning the MDN and transmitting the serial number, together with the assigned MDN, to an entity other than the wireless service provider for configuring the MCN for operation with the assigned MDN.

25

11. An apparatus for assigning a mobile dialing number combination (MDN) to a wireless mobile communication device (MCD) for providing local call access to the MCD from a base address for the MCD, the apparatus comprising:
- 5 means for selecting a wireless rate center encompassing the base address and having an MDN providing local call access to the MCD from the base address for the MCD; and
- means for assigning the MDN providing local calling access to the MCD from the base address for the MCD, in the selected wireless rate center
- 10 encompassing the base address, to the MCD.
12. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:
- a database defining geographic boundaries of a plurality of wireless rate centers; and
- 15 means for selecting the wireless rate center of claim 11 from the database.
13. The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising, means for converting the base address to a geographic location and selecting the wireless
- 20 rate center from those wireless rate centers in the database having geographic boundaries encompassing the geographic location of the base address.
14. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:
- means for selecting the wireless rate center prior to contacting a
- 25 wireless service provider; and
- means for transmitting a designation of the selected wireless rate center to a wireless service provider for assignment of the MDN by the wireless service provider.

15. The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising, means for assigning the MDN and transmitting the assigned MDN to an entity other than the wireless service provider for configuring the MCD for operation with the assigned MDN.

5

16. A computer readable medium storing a computer program for assigning a mobile dialing number combination (MDN) to a wireless mobile communication device (MCD) for providing local call access to the MCD from a base address for the MCD, the computer program comprising:

10 computer readable code for selecting a wireless rate center encompassing the base address and having an MDN providing local call access to the MCD from the base address for the MCD; and

computer readable code for assigning the MDN providing local calling access to the MCD from the base address for the MCD, in the selected
15 wireless rate center encompassing the base address, to the MCD, to thereby provide local calling access to the MCD from the base address for the MCD.

17. The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the computer program further comprises:

20 computer readable code comprising a database defining geographic boundaries of a plurality of wireless rate centers; and

computer readable code for selecting the wireless rate center of claim 16 from the database.

18. The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the computer program further comprises, computer readable code for converting the base address to a geographic location and selecting the wireless rate center from those wireless rate centers in the database having geographic boundaries encompassing the geographic location of the base address.

19. The computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein the computer program further comprises:

computer readable code for selecting the wireless rate center prior to contacting a wireless service provider; and

computer readable code for transmitting a designation of the selected wireless rate center to a wireless service provider for assignment of the MDN by the wireless service provider.

20. The computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein the computer program further comprises, computer readable code for assigning the MDN and transmitting the assigned MDN to an entity other than the wireless service provider for configuring the MCN for operation with the assigned MDN.